

WINDER'S BUILDING.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

A plan and estimate for constructing certain conveniences about Winder's Building.

DECEMBER 31, 1860.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *December 28, 1860.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit, herewith, with a recommendation to the favorable attention of Congress, a communication from the superintendent of Winder's Building, embodying an estimate for constructing certain conveniences, absolutely necessary, about the building.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. FLOYD, *Secretary of War.*

Hon. WILLIAM PENNINGTON,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

GOVERNMENT BUILDING, CORNER OF F AND 17TH STS.,
Washington, December 6, 1860.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions to report on the proposition to provide water-closets for this building I have devised, and respectfully submit herewith, a plan for the occupation of the small rooms at the stair landing of the first four stories for that purpose.

The plan contemplates four privy apartments, three urinals, a slop water sink, and a hose cock for each story, and is, I believe, as limited in extent and costliness of execution as is consistent with a due consideration of the wants of the building.

It will be seen from the enclosed estimate that to execute the work in a thorough manner, with all the necessary trapping to prevent

offensive odors, will cost, exclusive of the necessary brick ventilating flues, for the fourth story.....	\$1,075
And \$675 for each of the three lower stories, or for the three	2,025
To build the four brick ventilating flues will cost.....	350

And the entire cost of the work, executed in the best manner, will not exceed..... 3,450

The loss of time and the fatigue in passing from and to the upper stories of a building of this magnitude to the yard, and the inconvenience, detriment to cleanliness, and labor, of carrying water and slops up and down high flights of stairs, seem to require that there should be no delay in applying the proper means of relief now available in the abundant supply of water from the Washington aqueduct; and the urgent applications repeatedly made to me, and once to your predecessor, for accommodation of the kind proposed, induce me to recommend their being provided as soon as may be practicable.

The usual annual appropriation for purchase of fuel, employment of steam engineer, and fireman, and for repairs and other incidental expenses of this building is \$4,800, and the unexpended balance of the appropriation for the current fiscal year, is \$1,870 86

Of this balance there will be required—

For compensation of engineer from December 1, 1860, to June 30, 1861.....	\$525 00
For compensation of fireman to March 31, 1861.	200 00
For compensation of one laborer to June 30, 1861	350 00
	<hr/> 1,075 00
Balance.....	<hr/> 795 86

This balance is probably not greater than will be requisite for unforeseen expenses from date to the end of the current fiscal year, June 30, 1861; and it would, even if payment of all other necessary expenses was deferred until after the commencement of the next fiscal year, be insufficient to provide the proposed convenience for the highest story, where its want is most severely felt.

Desirable as the earliest practicable execution of this work unquestionably is, I am unable to suggest any other means of paying for it than a special appropriation by Congress, and I, therefore, respectfully recommend that application be made for an appropriation of its estimated cost, namely, \$3,450.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient,

JAMES EVELETH, *Superintendent.*

Hon. JOHN B. FLOYD, *Secretary of War.*

WASHINGTON, December 4, 1860.

I will furnish and put up for the government building, corner of 17th and F streets, the following articles, viz: One main 8-inch soil pipe from sewer in cellar to fourth story, made of 8 lb. lead; one 8-

inch lead trap at the entrance in sewer ; 8-inch downward draught pipe from water-closets and urinals to main soil pipe and there to connect with flue ; four water closets ; three urinals ; one iron sink and hose cock of the most approved patterns, all to be properly trapped so as to prevent any odor in the room ; a lead drip trough under urinals to connect with main soil pipe, covered with a marble slab and metal treadles ; 1-inch lead supply pipes to fourth story rooms ; the closets, urinals and sink to be enclosed and cased as per drawing, the doors to be glazed, the whole to be painted and made complete for the sum of ten hundred and seventy-five dollars, (\$1,075.) The additional rooms to be fitted in the same manner and like materials for the sum of six hundred and seventy-five dollars each, (\$675.)

W. T. DOVE.

JAMES EVELETH, Esq.

WINDER'S BUILDING,
December 19, 1860.

DEAR SIR : I respectfully beg leave to suggest to you, as superintendent of this building, the necessity for constructing "water-closets," on each floor, more particularly in the upper portion of the house. The gentlemen employed in this office, are subjected to much inconvenience from the want of such an arrangement. I hope this suggestion may meet with a favorable consideration. The benefit gained must far exceed the cost incurred.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

T. HUNTER.

JAMES EVELETH, Esq.

